



The Honorable Barbara Boxer
U.S. Senator
Attention: Ms. Lisa Moore
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, District Columbia 20510

Attention: Ms. Joanna Williams
312 N. Spring Street, Suite 1748
Los Angeles, California 90012

The Honorable Sheila James Kuehl
California State Senate
Attention: Mr. Syrus Devers
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, California 94249-0001

Dear Senator Boxer and Senator Kuehl:

The California Department of Health Services (DHS) and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) are responding to a set of questions that we received from Lisa Moore. Some of these questions relate to the State of California's general legal authorities and policies relative to the disposal of radioactive wastes at facilities not licensed to receive such waste. The remaining questions relate to the proposed shipment of soils from the Rocketdyne area of the Boeing Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) site to a permitted Class I hazardous waste disposal facility.

The answers to Ms. Moore's questions are enclosed. The answers to questions 1-11 and 13 were prepared by DHS and the answer to question 12 by DTSC. In May 1998, DHS determined that the Former Sodium Disposal Facility located within Area IV of the Boeing-Rocketdyne Facility near Simi Valley may be released for unrestricted use without radiological restriction. This action was taken via amendment #98 to the Boeing-Rocketdyne Radioactive Material License #0015. The soil from the Former Sodium Disposal Facility currently stored on site was released by DHS with no radiological restrictions.

DHS has carefully reconsidered the issues presented and has concluded, with confidence, that the soils at issue do not present a radiologic health hazard. DHS and DTSC concur that the soils at issue may legally and safely be disposed of at a permitted Class I hazardous waste facility.

Thank you for your interest in radioactive and hazardous waste disposal matters in California.

Sincerely,



Kevin Reilly, D.V.M., M.P.V.M.
Acting Deputy Director
Prevention Services
Department of Health Services



Bob Borzelleri
Chief Deputy Director
Department of Toxic Substance Control

Enclosure